

Environment Committee JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

Bill No.: SB-100

AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN ACCOUNT IN THE GENERAL FUND TO PROVIDE

Title: GRANTS TO TOWNS THAT NEED PFAS TESTING AND REMEDIATION.

Vote Date: 3/3/2023

Vote Action: Joint Favorable

PH Date: 2/15/2023

File No.:

***Disclaimer:** The following JOINT FAVORABLE Report is prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and does not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose.*

SPONSORS OF BILL:

Environment Committee

CO- SPONSORS OF BILL:

Sen. Christine Cohen, 12th Dist.
Rep. David Michel, 146th Dist.
Rep. Brandon Chafee, 33rd Dist.

Sen. Saud Anwar, 3rd Dist.
Rep. Geraldo Reyes, 75th Dist.

REASONS FOR BILL:

To provide municipalities with needed resources to test for and remediate PFAS contamination on town-owned properties and to assist residential homeowners impacted by such contamination.

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

None Expressed

NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

LORI BROWN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, CONNECTICUT LEAGUE OF CONSERVATION VOTERS

CTLCV Supports SB100 because its an important step to fund testing and remediation of PFAS contamination, but we ask that you include provisions that will help stop the cause of the contamination.

Alicea Charamut, Executive Director, Rivers Alliance of Connecticut

Rivers Alliance Supports SB 100 because it will help towns to take action on keeping PFAS out of consumer and waste streams.

Sen. Christine Cohen, 12th District

Sen. Cohen strongly Supports SB 100 because we need to better protect the environment and public health and without this bill it will be a more costly burden for the state in the future.

Ann Gadwah, Advocacy and Outreach Organizer, Sierra Club Connecticut

Sierra Club Supports SB 100 with some recommendations. The recommend the bill be amended to including phasing out the use of PFAS in many of the products that they have found. This would prevent PFAS from getting into our environment in the first place.

Betsy Gara, Executive Director, COST

The Connecticut Council of Small Towns (COST) Supports SB 100 which will assist municipalities in testing for and remediating drinking water that is contaminated with PFAS. Many communities throughout Connecticut are struggling to address well water that has been elevated levels of PFAS.

Nancy Gorski, First Selectman, Town of Killingworth

The Selectman of the Town of Killingworth Support SB 100 because of the many wells and groundwater in their town that have high levels of PFAS. This bill will help in the testing and remediation of PFAS from their towns drinking water.

Donna Hamzy Carroccia, Chief Strategy Officer of CCM

CCM urges the Committee to support SB 100. SB 100 demonstrates a critical first step by the state to begin tackling the looming and expensive issues of PFAS contamination to our states drinking water.

Richard Harris, Marine Scientist for East Norwalk Blue

Mr. Harris's responsibilities include biological and physical surveying of both aquatic and marine waters for sources of pollution. Financial support for the towns of CT to continue and expand this testing under SB 100 would be of great importance as it will help define the full scope of PFAS contamination on Connecticut waterways which will be of value in defining remedial projects.

Bill Lucey, Long Island Sound Keeper, Save the Sound

Save the Sound Supports SB100 but they feel it doesn't come close to heading off the impacts attributed to PFAS contamination. They feel the real solution is to work with industry to identify products from which PFAS can be removed and start implementing it as soon as possible.

Seth Molofsky, Executive Director, Environmental Professional Organization of CT
NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:

EPOC Supports SB100 because it allows the towns to move forward with testing to offset sampling and abatement costs when impacted water supplies are identified

Francis R. Pickering, Executive Director, Western Connecticut of Government

Western Connecticut of Government Supports SB 100 but suggests that you clarify that grants from the PFAS testing account may be made to groups of municipalities (e.g. a regional Council of Governments or regional health district) in addition to individual municipalities.

Pamela Puchalski, Project Coordinator, CT Council on Occupational Safety and Health

Ms. Puchalski said her Council Supports SB 100. It is step in the right direction to reducing the effects of PFAS in our communities and workplaces, but it does not address the continuing use of PFAS chemicals and its accumulating effects on the health of Connecticut citizens and workers.

Theresa Velenzas, Glastonbury, CT

Ms. Velenzas supports SB 100 because it would allocate funds toward remediating PFAS in the environment. The environment is in- crisis and it is effecting our health.

Jeanne Dubino, CT Resident

Ms. Dubino strongly supports SB 100, which provides support to towns to remediate PFAS. PFAS are associated with "cancer, liver damage, decreased fertility and increased risk of asthma and thyroid disease.

Over 50 people submitted testimony in Support of SB 100

NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION

None Expressed

Reported by: Judith Ganswindt

Date: March 9, 2023